

**ICARDA**  
**Office of Deputy Director General-Research (DDG-R)**  
**Biometrics and Statistics Section (BSS)**

*Citation:* Singh, Murari (2016). A report of trip to Cairo, 1-5 November 2016 for International Year of Pulses-Concept Note for discussion. Biometrics and Statistics Section, DDG-R Office, ICARDA. Amman, Jordan. 4pp.

A report of trip to Cairo, 1-5 November 2016 for **International Year of Pulses-Concept Note for discussion** by Murari Singh

**i) Purpose of travel (A statement)**

- To participate in the Regional Dialogues on the International Year of Pulses-Concept Note for discussion”, 2-3 Nov 2016, organized by FAO/ICARDA and
- To discuss “Biometrics and Statistics support to chickpea projects”, 4-5 Nov 2016.

**ii) Principal contacts with address (for a program database)**

- As per Annex-I.

**iii) Summary of the visit (2-3 paragraphs on the main activities of your visit only)**

- Following a call from FAO for an International dialogue on Pulses in the MENA region, a meeting of experts from essential diverse disciplines was organized and coordinated by Dr Ala Hamwieh from 2-3 November 2016 at Cairo. The dialogue had the following objectives:
  - Understand/Document the “state-of-the-art” on pulses in each Region in terms of opportunities and challenges, including existing policy environment
  - Agree on common priorities for advocacy and promotion of pulses in each region.
  - Identify knowledge gaps and research needs
- I attended all the presentations made during the two days and commented where found appropriate (Annex- II)
- Presented my points for discussion on: “**Suitability and Identification of Pulses in Cropping Systems for Nutritional Security, Better Livelihood and Mitigation for Climate Change: Need for on-farm experimentation and minimum datasets for modelling for out-scaling of the production system**” (a PPT file attached)
- Assisted Dr Hamwieh in editing the draft summary of the discussions - perceived **constraints and strength for pulse production, proposed solutions and recommendations** of the meeting.
- Discussed the BSS support to Dr Alaa Hamwieh on:
  - experimental design for a herbicide trial (split-plot design in RCBD; 4 herbicides in main-plots, 2 chickpea genotypes in subplots, 3 or more replications)
  - discussion on a Draft Manuscript on chickpea responsiveness to climatic variables
  - discussion on a Draft manuscript on preliminary evaluation of 3000 chickpea accessions at Amlaha Research station, Madhya Pradesh, India and demonstration of the iTOL features

**iv) Implications for ICARDA**

- The list of recommendations will be submitted to FAO by Dr Ala Hamwieh and it is expected that these recommendations for MENA region will provide scope for submitting research project proposals.

## ANNEX-I: List of participants

No.	Participant	Position	Affiliation/Country
1	Murari Singh	Senior Biometrician	ICARDA/Canadian
2	Mohamed Kharrat	Director of grain legume program , INRAT - Tunis	INRAT/Tunis
3	Moez Amri	Faba bean breeder	INRAT/Tunis
4	Shiv Kumar Agrawal	Legume coordinator in the biodiversity and integrated gene management Program/ Lentil breeder	ICARDA/Indian
5	Fouad Maalouf	Legume coordinator at Terbol station/ faba bean breeder	ICARDA/Lebanese
6	Rola El Amil	Pathologist at Lebanese Agricultural Research Institute	LARI/Lebanon
7	Ahmad El Bitar	Biotechnologist at Lebanese Agricultural Research Institute	LARI/Lebanon
8	Mona Saliba	Economist at Lebanese Agricultural Research Institute	LARI/Lebanon
9	Abdelmagid Adlan Babiker	Legume pathologist,	ARC/Sudan
10	Gamal Elkhair Ismaeel	Legume breeder	ARC/Sudan
11	Amel Adam Ibrahim	Chickpea breeder	ARC/Sudan
12	Hassan Al Awad	Project coordinator	ICARDA/Sudan
13	Khaled Abd El Moneam Aly	Legume breeder	ARC/Egypt
14	Shahinda Mahmoud	Legume pathologist	ARC/Egypt
15	Kadry Mostafa Mohamed	Lentil breeder	ARC/Egypt
16	Maher El-Maghraby	Egyptian Joint Venture Farms project in Africa (for Cereals and legumes)	Ministry of Agriculture/Egypt
17	Moustafa Abdel Moneim	Director of Legume program	ARC/Egypt
18	Rehab Abdel Rahman	Director of Sids station/Faba bean breeder	ARC/Egypt
19	Hend Ghanem	Faba bean Breeder	ARC/Egypt
20	Hatem Aboutaleb	Microbiologist/Bio-fertilization	ARC/Egypt
21	Shireen Assem	Director of Agri. Engi. Res. Inst. (AGERI), ARC Egypt	ARC/Egypt
22	Maggie Habib	Ambassador of FAO for the International Year of Pulses 2016	FAO/Egypt
23	Muhammad Dost	FAO,Regional Plant production officer	FAO/Egypt
24	Aladdin Hamwiah	Chickpea breeder/Biotechnologist	ICARDA/Syria
25	Clemens Breisinger	Country program leader at the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)	IFPRI/Germany
26	Jose Luis Figueroa	Associate Research Fellow	IFPRI/Mexican

**ANNEX-II: Program of the International Year of Pulses 2016  
Regional Dialogue for Middle East Nile Valley and North Africa**

*Samiramis Intercontinental Hotel, Cairo, Egypt, 2-3 November 2016*

November 02, 2016		
09:00-09.30	Registration	
09:30-09:50	Introduction to Regional Dialogue for MENA	Aladdin Hamwieh/Mohammad Dost
09:50-10:00	Welcoming talk	Magi Habib
10.00-10.30	Current pulse scenario in Middle East, Nile Valley and North Africa Region: Current constraints, successes and future challenges	Fouad Maalouf
10:30-11:00	<i>Coffee break.</i>	
11:00-11:30	Research Strategy for Pulses Sufficiency in the Middle East, Nile Valley and North Africa Region	Shiv Kumar Agrawal
11:30-12:00	Food security	Clemens Breisinger
12:00-12:30	Suitability and Identification of Pulses in Cropping Systems for Nutritional Security, Better Livelihood and Mitigation for Climate Change: Need for on-farm experimentation and minimum datasets for modelling for out-scaling of the production system	Murari Singh
12:30-13:00	Pulse production in North Africa	Mohammad Kharrat
13.00-14.00	Lunch	
14:00-14:15	Pulses contribution to sustainable agriculture in a changing environment	Aladdin Hamwieh
14:15-14:30	Legume-Biological nitrogen fixation	Hatem Abo Taleb
14:30-14:45	Legume production in Lebanon: challenges and demands	Lebanese group
14:45-15:00	Legume production in Sudan: challenges and demands	Sudanese group
15:00-15:15	Legume production in Egypt: challenges and demands	Egyptian group
15:15-15:30	<i>Coffee break</i>	
15:30-17:00	Plenary Discussion on Pulses problems, solutions and producers	Groups

November 03, 2016	
09:00-10:00	Plenary Discussion (free talk)
10:00-10:30	Coffee break
10:30-12:00	Working group (Pulse production and research: challenge, needs and priorities)
12:00-13:00	Plenary - Working time for group <b>reporting and discussion</b>
13:00-14:00	Lunch
14:00-15:30	Open recommendations of this meeting
15:30-16:00	Coffee break
16:00-16:30	Closing the meeting

**Important Notes (English/Arabic):**

**Hotel Samiramis Intercontinental Hotel:**

El, Nile Corniche, Cairo Governorate 11511  
Tel: +202 27988000

**Aladdin Hamwiah:** Mobile: +2010-2600-9094

**Yasmine Samy:** Mobile: +2010-6882-7014

**ICARDA Cairo office:**

15 G. Radwan Ibn El-Tabib Street, Giza  
11th Floor, P.O. Box 2416  
Cairo, Egypt  
Tel Office: +202-357-24358, 35829

**عنوان فندق سميراميس:**

شارع كورنيش النيل، ميدان التحرير، محافظة القاهرة 11511  
رقم الهاتف: +202 27988000

**علاء الدين حموية (موبيل):** +2010-2600-9094

**ياسمين سامي (موبيل):** +2010-6882-7014

**مكتب الإيكاردا في القاهرة:**

15 ج شارع رضوان بن الطبيب، الجيزة  
الطابق الحادي عشر، القاهرة. مصر  
صندوق بريد: 2416  
هاتف: +202-357-24358, 35829

*We wish you a nice stay in Cairo*

*نتمنى لكم إقامة سعيدة في القاهرة*